Dear Paul,

10/3/77

While I can appreciate the concerns your letter of ~~22~~ 9/28 represents I wish you could see that each unnecessary letter to which I have to respond reduces t he amount of time I can have for work you and others would like me to do.

In your letter you ignore totally that to which I have responded, such as the certain fact that Downing's retirement was his own idea, not under any threat, and is a decision he made long before he pushed to get the committee set up.

Besides, nutty as he was and his committee is, there is no jeopardy to those you think have cause for fear. It is a disinformation operation, a boon to the spooks.

There is no Dan Gay and the Donovan Gay of whom I wrote you is a very real person, not an alias for me. He is without the power to do those things you long to have done.

By Gen. Wilm. Donovan I presume you mean William Donovan of O.S.S. Despite whatever you think he has been dead many years. That the intelligence agencies are as you represent does not relate what you represent to the subject of the assassinations.

There really is nothing I can say about the other matters, as if you's stopped to think you'd have realized.

Letters like this put me in a bad position. There is no real response I can make, any response takes time I do not have, and if I don't respond I'm not a good guy.

Please understand this if I do not respond to others like it.

Or any on which you type on both sides, making reading difficult for good eyes, not one of my blessings.

Sincerely,